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- (e) forming a stack of thin film layers over said exposed surface of said glass or glass-like layer, said stack of layers including at least one
5 ferromagnetic layer.

13. A magnetic recording medium, comprising:

- (a) a non-magnetic substrate having at least one major surface;
(b) a sintered glass or glass-like layer formed on said at least one major surface, said sintered glass or glass-like layer including an upper surface
5 having an embossed pattern formed therein; and
(c) a stack of thin film layers formed over said upper surface of said sintered glass or glass-like layer, said stack of layers including at least one ferromagnetic layer.

14. The magnetic recording medium as in claim 13, wherein:

said non-magnetic substrate (a) is disk-shaped with a pair of major surfaces and comprised of a high modulus material selected from glass, ceramic, and glass-ceramic materials.

15. The magnetic recording medium as in claim 13, wherein:

said sintered glass or glass-like layer (b) is derived from a sol-gel layer and includes an embossed servo pattern formed therein.

16. A stamper for embossing a servo pattern in a surface of a layer of a hydrophilic sol-gel formed on a surface of a substrate for a magnetic recording medium, comprising:

- (a) a main body having an embossing surface including a negative
5 image of said servo pattern; and
(b) means for facilitating release of said embossing surface of said stamper from said surface of said layer of sol-gel subsequent to embossing of said servo pattern.

17. The stamper as in claim 16, wherein said main body and said embossing surface are formed of a hydrophobic polymeric material.

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